

# Gwennap Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ELECTORS HELD AT THE PARISH ROOMS, PULLA CROSS ON 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018 at 7pm

Present: Cllr Furnish (Chair), Cllr Lanyon, Cllr Patton, Cllr Forrest, Cllr Hallett, Cllr Pascoe  
Apologies: Cllr Leach  
Also present: Mrs Barnard (Clerk), Cornwall Cllr Kaczmarek

### INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

**17/186** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2017/18

**17/187** The Chairman gave his report on the activities of the Parish Council for the year April 2017-March 2018, including the following challenges and achievements.

#### Challenges

- Anti-social behaviour at Wheal Jewel continues to cause problems for local residents. The Parish Council are working closely with Cornwall Cllr Kaczmarek, Cornwall Housing and Cornwall Council to bring about better management of the site to reduce the anti-social behaviour (including installation of CCTV), and agree an action plan to improve standards of living on site.
- The illegal use of off road vehicles on footpaths and bridleways is a continued issue within Gwennap parish, and neighbouring parishes. The Parish Council are part of a collaborative group (including 4 Parish Councils, Cornwall Council and the Police) that is working to address this. The police carried out an operation on 3<sup>rd</sup> December in the Wheal Maid area. Activity was quieter than normal on that day because of bad weather, but the operation still produced some results including one vehicle being seized and action taken against others, as well as the opportunity to educate off-road vehicle users and raise awareness and visibility of the operation.
- Insufficient numbers of volunteers came forward and completed the paperwork to take part in a Community Speed watch operation. The Parish Council are working with PCSO Fuller and would still like to set up a Speed Watch group to carry out operations in the speeding hotspots in the parish.
- A number of factors have meant a delay in the Parish Council's investigations into development of the void space underneath Cusgarne CP School. Early feasibility studies are now taking place and the Parish Council will continue to work with the school and Aspire MAT to discuss ways in which the Parish Council can help the school develop the space for the benefit of the school and the wider community (a long term goal).
- The Parish Council would like to be given more representation at Cornwall Council, since the Councillors are elected representatives.

#### Successes/Achievements

- The Parish Council is thriving and has seven committed Parish Councillors who bring a wealth of experience, knowledge and enthusiasm to the table, as well as a determination to do their best for the parish. As a result the Parish Council are looking into a number of new projects that will benefit the parishioners, including a Community Transport Scheme and setting up a Community Land Trust, as well as a review of the use of Wheal Maid.
- After threatening a Section 215 Notice, the Parish Council succeeded in getting the land owner of a parcel of privately owned land that was regularly used as a fly tipping spot and for anti-social behaviour to clear up the site and block access to it to prevent further problems. The Parish Council are grateful to the land owner for resolving the matter.
- A phased re-opening of the bridleways at United Downs was agreed and the bridleways were opened for use at pre-arranged times (evenings, weekends and bank holidays) on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 after being closed for 40 years. The Parish Council continue to attend meetings with SUEZ and push for full reopening of the bridleways as soon as possible.
- The Parish Council have had a number of meetings with Geothermal Engineering Ltd, ahead of the start of the geothermal project at United Downs that is due to start in Spring 2018. The Parish Council will be chairing the Geothermal Community Liaison Group meetings.
- The Parish Council are thrilled to have instigated the start-up of a weekly youth group for children aged 8-18 in the parish. Uptake has been very good and feedback has been excellent.
- The Parish Council has been in dialogue with some representatives of the Wheal Maid downhill biking fraternity and are in the process of agreeing an informal Code of Conduct.
- The Parish Council were pleased to be able to maintain the Precept for 2018/19 at the same level as 2017/18, at a time when Cornwall Council has raised Council Tax by 4.99 %.

- The Parish Council has continued to work with the Gwennap Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group on the NDP. A great deal of time and effort has been given and the Plan and associated Appendices are in the final stages of preparation, ahead of another set of public consultation roadshow events in May 2018.

**QUESTIONS ON THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**17/188** The Chairman was asked for his comments on how successfully the Cornwall Association of Local Councils represent the Parish Council at Cornwall Council. The Chairman replied that the Parish Council's involvement with and inclusion in the Community Network Panels is the best way of being represented since the panel is made up of a unified group of rural parishes.

**OPEN FORUM**

**17/189** Cllr Pascoe proposed starting up a 'Adopt a Verge' campaign to encourage parishioners/volunteers to collect litter on verges around the parish. All present supported the idea and agreed that the Parish Council could purchase some 'Adopt a Verge Volunteer Litter Picker' high-vis tabards. Everyone was asked to email location suggestions to the Clerk. Cllr Pascoe also suggested installing a litter bin in the layby at the top of Cusgarne Hill since it is a regular spot for littering. The Parish Council will discuss this at their next meeting.

**CLOSE**

**17/190** The Chairman thanked those in attendance and closed the meeting at 7.10pm

Signed.......... Chairman (19<sup>th</sup> April 2018)